Iowa Department of Human Services
CHILD CARE CENTER EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE

Name of Center: Warrior Early Learning Center **Enrollment:** 78 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51072

Street: 80 2nd ST **City:** Calamus Iowa **Zip** 52729 **County:** Clinton

Mailing Address: PO Box 158, Calamus , IA, 52729

Director's Name: Jessica Esbaum **Phone Number:** 563-246-2553

On-Site Supervisor(s): none **E-Mail:** jesbaum@cal-wheat.net

Date(s) of Visit:

Licensing Visit **Unannounced Visit** **Off Year Visit** X **Administrative Change**

LICENSING VISITS

New Application **Re-Application** X **NA**

Signed Application (470-0722) Received **Yes** **No** X **NA** **Date Signed:**

FIRE INSPECTION X **State** **Local** **NA** **Is Fire Inspection Approved?** X **Yes** **No** **NA**

Date Inspected: 09-07-2022

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age X School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	8	18	67	20	113
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-01-2024 to 10-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate **Date:** 05-30-2025

I. IF CURRENT LICENSE IS PROVISIONAL, IDENTIFY THE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced off year visit was completed at this center on 4/22/25. The center director is Jessica Esbaum. Jessica was present and accompanied the licensing consultant throughout the majority of the visit. Jessica is also the lead teacher for the school's statewide voluntary preschool program. The center is owned and operated by the Calamus Wheatland Elementary School. The licensed center occupies space in the elementary school building, most of which is new space that has been added on to the school specifically for the preschool and child care center. Before and after school/preschool child care is offered to children who attend this school on school days. On non school days the program would be open to other children as well.

The center includes the following licensed space in the new wing of the building: Twos room (18 months through three year old), threes room (three/four year old), preschool room (statewide voluntary prek program and before and after preschool/school child care for four year old through school age children), and infant room (age six weeks through 23 months). Licensed child care rooms in the main school building include: Room 301 (wraparound four/five year old child care for prek children, school day only) and room 407 (four year and older child care). All program rooms are spacious, colorful, and bright with windows. Program materials are highly organized and are accessible. Rooms 301 and 407 include an adjacent restroom area with a toilet and sink as well as a hand washing sink within the program room. These children also have access to nearby hallway restroom areas. The twos, threes, and preschool rooms include adjacent restroom areas with one toilet. These rooms have two hand washing sinks within the program room (at least one sink is just outside of the restroom area). The twos room includes a diaper station within the program room near the hand washing sink. The infant room includes a diaper station and hand washing sink within the program room. The room also includes a food/bottle sink. The center includes a room they call the "gym" that is used by multiple groups at various times of the day for indoor large motor activities. This room is not included in the center's license capacity at this time but can have a maximum of 47 children at any given time. The "gym" includes two adjacent restroom areas with one toilet and one sink in each. There are hallway restroom areas available nearby that the program can use as well. The center may also use the school gymnasium on occasion. All program space was observed.

The center does not participate in the CACFP. The center serves breakfast, morning snack, lunch, and afternoon snack. Meals and snacks are provided by the school cafeteria and brought to the center by cafeteria staff. The school cafeteria is licensed by IDPH. School age children are released from child care prior to breakfast on school days.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The new wing of the building was designed specifically for the child care center. The program rooms provide ample space and are well arranged and well supplied. Materials continue to be accessible to the children, are organized, and are well maintained. The center continues to be well managed, and the staff appear to work well together. The staff were once again observed to be highly engaged in activities with the children. Children's projects and crafts are posted throughout the center. The center director reports that the school and the families who utilize the center are very supportive to the program. Staff and child files and other required licensing documentation continue to be highly organized.

IV. IDENTIFY THE ASPECTS OF OPERATION THAT FALL BELOW THE STANDARDS REVIEWED:

109.7(1): All staff(within first 3 months of employment)Two hours of approved training FOR the mandatory reporting of child abuse.At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions and infectious disease control.Certification in American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health institute or MEDIC First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) OR equivalent certification approved by the department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross,American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the department.A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Minimum health and safety trainings, approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The administrative change aspect of this report reflects the change in capacity for the center based on the fact the center is no longer licensing room 407 and is instead licensing room 303. Room 303 will be used for school age children and can have a maximum capacity of 20 children.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact your DHS Licensing Consultant to discuss the issue. The child care director may also send a response which will be placed in the licensing file.

*Note: If you are a member of the general public, there may be additional information contained in the public file. You may contact the DHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.